Increase in seafood exports

967. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our seafood exports have gone up considerably inspite of anti-dumping duty imposed by certain countries;

(b) if so, the amount of exports during 2004-05 and the share of Orissa State out of this lot;

(c) which are our major markets; and

(d) the action plan of Government to persuade those countries which are continuing with levy of anti-dumping duties on our exports to withdraw these duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) As per the export figures compiled by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) based on shipping bills and invoices, the export of marine products amounted to US $ 1478.48 million during 2004-05 as compared to US $ 1330.76 million during 2003-04.

The share of Orissa based exporters in the total exports during 2004-05 was 3.54% (approx).

(c) The major importing countries of our marine products are Japan, the USA, the European Union and China.

(d) MPEDA and Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) have been defending the interests of Indian shrimp farmers and industry.

FDI in SEZ

968. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been able to make a strong pitch for forcing investment in India at the World Economic Forum in the recent past in Davos, Switzerland;

(b) whether any policy measures taken to attract FDI in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some of the policy measures taken to attract FDI in Special Economic Zones include:—

(i) Foreign direct investment upto 100% under automatic route for all manufacturing activities except arms and ammunition, explosives and allied items of defence equipments, defence aircraft and warships, atomic substances, narcotics and psychotropic substances and hazardous chemicals, distillation and brewing of alcoholic drinks and cigarettes/cigars and manufactured tobacco substitutes;

(ii) 100% FDI allowed for development of townships including housing, commercial and recreational facilities on a case to case basis;

(iii) Facility to foreign companies to set up manufacturing units in SEZs as branch operation on standalone basis without approval from RBI.

Import of fruits

969. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fruits imported after the removal of import restrictions showing the quantum of each fruit variety;

(b) the customs duty imposed on each of these imported fruit varieties; and

(c) how far it has affected the domestic fruit growers/traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The details of quantity of fruits imported are enclosed as Statement *(See* below).